

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 20-38 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
2. Applicant argues that the newly added limitations of ***"modifying the at least one message by adding address information to and deleting address information from the at least one message."***
3. In light of Applicant recent amendments, Examiner withdraws previous rejections. However, an additional search is performed and the results are utilized in the action below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 20-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosenberg (NPL titled: Supporting Intermediary Session Policies in SIP) in view of Pirttimaa et al (US Patent 7,574,735).

Regarding claim 20 and 38, Rosenberg discloses a call set-up system to set-up calls across packet switching network (Proxy servers) (page 1-Abstract, page 3-paragraph 1,) connected to each other by network address translation (NAT) devices , comprising a plurality of call agents configured to send and receive messages to and from other call agents (see Fig. 2, page 3-paragraph 1, page 5, paragraph 2, 3 & 5, page 24-Fig. 6, paragraph 1, 2 & 3), the messages including address information for media packets within the packet-switched networks to define a media path of the call (Fig. 1 & 5, page 3-paragraph 5, page 5-paragraph 1, page 6-last paragraph, page 8-paragraph 4, page 12-paragraph 2 & 3, page 15-last paragraph) wherein at least one of the messages includes address information sent to a preceding call agent involved in the set-up of the call (Fig. 3, 5, & 6, page 1-paragraph 1).

Although Rosenberg is silent on ***“modifying the at least one message by adding address information to and deleting address information from the at least one message,”*** Pirttimaa et al discloses user agent receiving/adding and extracting address information from SIP message (see figure 4).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to be motivated to implement modifying the at least one message by adding address information to and deleting address information from the at least one message as taught by Pirttimaa et al with the teachings of Rosenberg for the purpose of further supporting coherent SIP communication between multiple users.

7. Claims 21-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosenberg (NPL titled: Supporting Intermediary Session Policies in SIP) in view of Pirttimaa et al (US Patent 7,574,735) as applied to claims 20 and 38 above, and further in view of Harris (2004/0114590).

Regarding claim 21 and 22, claims 21 and 22 contain all the limitations of claim 20 except for scanning received messages. Harris discloses querying/searching received call setup messages (see Fig. 1, 2 and 5, paragraph, 0008, 0054 and 0106)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to be motivated to implement querying/searching received call setup messages as taught by Harris with the teachings of Rosenberg for the purpose of further supporting coherent SIP communication between multiple users.

Regarding claim 23, Rosenberg further discloses a call set-up system of claim 22 wherein a media path opened through a NAT device for re-entry to a network is

closed (page 3, paragraph 1, Rosenberg discloses closing media pinholes via rerouting to network).

Regarding claim 24, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 20 wherein one or more of the messages include session descriptions (page 3-paragraph 4, page 4-paragraph 5).

Regarding claim 25, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 20 wherein at least one message includes encrypted address information (page 4, paragraph 2).

Regarding claim 26, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 20 wherein at least one message includes a reference to address information stored within the plurality of packet-switched networks (page 1, Abstract, page 8-paragraph 4, page 11, line 1-5).

Regarding claim 27, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 20 wherein at least one message includes an identifier of a packet-switched network that media packets are to traverse (page 5-paragraph 2, page 7, paragraph 3, page 13-paragraph 2).

Regarding claim 28, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 27 wherein each of the plurality of packet-switched networks has a globally unique identifier (page 13-paragraph 1).

Regarding claim 29, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 20 wherein the call agents are configured to format the messages according to an offer/answer protocol (page 14-paragraph 2, 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 30, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 29 wherein the offer/answer protocol is Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) (page 10-paragraph 10, page 14-paragraph 2, 3 and 40).

Regarding claim 31, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 30 wherein the address information for media packets is sent to the call agents involved in the call-set up in a stack structure as a multipart attachment to the SIP message (page 13-paragraph 2 & 3).

Regarding claim 32, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 31 wherein if the stack structure includes an entry for the region being entered by the message, the call agent receiving the message is configured to scan the stack structure and to make the oldest matching entry the new session description (page 11 and 14) .

Regarding claim 33, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 32 wherein the call agent receiving the message is further configured to close a pinhole opened in a NAT device associated with the region being entered by the message (page 3, 6, 15, 19).

Regarding claim 34, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 32 wherein if the stack structure does not include an entry for the region being left by an answer message, the call agent sending the message is configured to close a pinhole in a NAT device associated with that region (page 3-paragraph 1).

Regarding claim 35, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 20 wherein the call agents are arranged to control the NAT devices (page 3-paragraph 1).

Regarding claim 36, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 35 wherein the call agents are incorporated in the NAT devices (Fig. 2, page 19).

Regarding claim 37, Rosenberg further discloses call set-up system of claim 20 wherein at least one of the packet-switched networks comprises a 3G radio network (page 3-paragraph 2).

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prenell P. Jones whose telephone number is 571-272-3180. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Phillips can be reached on 571-272-3940. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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Prenell P. Jones

March 20, 2011

/Prenell P Jones/

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